GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:202
ANSWERED ON:17.07.2017
Hydrocarbon Exploration Licensing Policy
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched National Data Repository (NDR) and Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP) process under Hydrocarbon Exploration Licensing Policy (HELP) and if so, the details thereof along with the salient features of the said policy;
(b) whether OALP permits investors to select blocks of their choice and submit an Expression of Interest provisions like single/uniform licence to explore all forms of hydrocarbons and no cess on domestic crude oil production and if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the Government has launched 'Swasth Saarthi Abhiyaan' for providing healthcare facilities to commercial drivers in Delhi NCR region and if so, the details thereof; and
(d) the steps being taken by the Government for reducing dependence on imports and making petroleum and natural gas industry self-reliant?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)
(a) & (b): Government has launched National Data Repository (NDR) and Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP) under Hydrocarbon Exploration Licensing Policy (HELP) on 28th June, 2017. Open Acreage Licensing Policy, permits the investor to select blocks of their choice from the Open Acreage identified for carrying out exploration and production activities. On the basis of blocks selected, the bidding is carried out and blocks are awarded based on competitive, open and transparent bidding.
The salient features of new Hydrocarbon Exploration Licensing Policy (HELP) are as under:
? Single license for conventional and non-conventional hydrocarbons
? Revenue Sharing Contract
? Graded royalty rates for offshore area
? Contractor will be free to sell the crude oil exclusively in domestic market through transparent bidding process on arms length basis.
? Contractor will have freedom for pricing and marketing of gas produced from these blocks on arms length basis.
? There is no levy of Cess on crude oil.
(c): 'Swasth Saarthi Abhiyan' is a two month Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative of Indraprastha Gas Limited (IGL) focusing on providing preventive healthcare services to public transport drivers of the Delhi NCR region, with almost all of them being users of CNG. The campaign was launched on 28th June 2017 by organizing a mega Health Camp to provide basic preventive health care needs like Height-weight, Body Mass Index (BMI) and Blood pressure measurement, Vision & Eye checkup, Blood group testing, Counseling, Health Education & First Aid tips.
(d): In order to reducing dependence on imports and making petroleum and natural gas industry self-reliant the Government has taken various policy & administrative decisions. Some of the policy decisions taken by the Government in recent years to enhance Exploration and Production (E&P) activities can be brought out as:
i. Policy to grant relaxation, extension & classifications at development & production stage for early monetization of hydrocarbon discoveries.
ii. Discovered Small Field Policy.
iii. Hydrocarbon Exploration Licensing policy (HELP).
iv. Policy for Grant of Extension to small & medium sized discovered fields
v. Policy for marketing freedom for gas produced from Deepwater & Ultra Deepwater areas.
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